Laying on OFC lines at Tehrip-Uttarkashi

†1744. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1250 given in the Rajya Sabha on 7th March, 2000 and state:

(a) what is the latest position in respect of laying of OFC lines at the Rishikesh-Narendranagar, Tehri and Mussorie-Naiyamwem-Naugaon-Uttarkashi and Devprayag-Hindolekhal-Ghansali sections; and

(b) by when the work of laying of OFC lines at the above three sections would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) (i) Rishikesh- Narendranagar-New Tehri optical fibre cable Route of 72 Km length was commissioned on 31.3.2000.

(ii) Mussoorie-Naugaon-Barkot Uttarkashi optical fibre Route of 184.2 Km is under execution and 58.9 Km of HDPE Pipe has been laid so far.

(iii) Tender for trencing and Pipe laying for Devprayag-Hindolekhal-Ghansali optical fibre route has been invited. Work is expected to start by 01.09.2000.

(b) Both the above schemes at No. 2 and No. 3 are likely to be completed by 31.3.2001, subject to timely availability of resources.

Incentives for promoting Internet

1745. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that telephone line network is maximum in use at present for access to internet;

(b) whether in Government's opinion, this system is likely to continue and expand;

(c) whether Government propose any incentives to promote use of internet like quick telephone connection or cheaper call charges etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.